

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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| Applicant: | Yoshiaki AOKI, et al. |) | Confirmation No. 3746 |
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| Filed: | June 5, 2007 |) | This Information Disclosure |
| | |) | Statement was electronically filed on, |
| Title: | PLATE MATERIAL VERTICAL |) | January 30, 2008, using the USPTO's |
| | PROCESSING LINE |) | EFS-Web. |
| | |) | |
| Application | |) | |
| No.: | 10/589,928 |) | |
| | |) | |
| Art Unit: | 1752 |) | |
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| Examiner: | Jason L. Lazorcik |) | |
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| | |) | |
| Attorney Docket: | 8304/89047 |) | |
| | |) | |
| Customer No.: | 22242 |) | |
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Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, and in accordance with MPEP § 601 and 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants and the undersigned attorney bring the following information with respect to the above-identified application to the attention of the Examiner.

| <u>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</u> | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|---|
| <u>Document Number</u> | <u>Publication Date</u> | <u>Applicant(s)</u> |
| JP 05-036658 | 02-12-1993 | Tokyo Electron Ltd. |
| JP 09-330898 | 12-22-1997 | Kaijo Corp. |
| JP 2000-233830 | 08-29-2000 | Samukon: KK |
| JP 11-106030 | 04-20-1999 | Fukuda Engineering: KK |
| JP 06-246559 | 09-06-1994 | Amada Co. Ltd. Amada Washino Co. Ltd. |
| JP 2003-192127 | 07-09-2003 | Hayashi Takehide Daiichi Shisetsu Kogyo KK Nagata Tetsuzo |
| JP 08-059269 | 03-05-1996 | Asahi Glass Co. Ltd. |
| JP 07-251362 | 10-03-1995 | Shirai Tekkosho: KK |
| JP 2001-213517 | 08-07-2001 | Daiichi Shisetsu Kogyo KK Nagata Tetsuzo |
| JP 05-269699 | 10-19-1993 | Central Glass Co. Ltd. |

An International Search Report dated May 25, 2004, from the Japanese Patent Office in corresponding Japanese Patent Application No. PCT/JP2004/001787 is provided including an explanation of the degree of relevance determined by the Japanese Patent Office for the above-cited '658, '898, '830, '030, '559, and '127 Japanese patent documents.

A Supplementary European Search Report dated July 31, 2007, from the European Patent Office in corresponding European Patent Application No. 04 71 2178 is provided including an explanation of the degree of relevance determined by the European Patent Office for the above-cited '517 and '699 Japanese patent documents.

The above documents are listed on Form PTO/SB/08a which is being submitted electronically with this Information Disclosure Statement. A copy of the

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International Search Report, Supplementary European Search Report and a copy of each of the listed Japanese patent documents is also filed herewith. In addition, English Abstracts are provided for the cited Japanese patent documents.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(h), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to be an admission that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b).

Respectfully submitted,
FITCH, EVEN, TABIN & FLANNERY

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